Commission has scaled down sectoral public investment in the Tenth Plan by 19% and consequently, the total investment requirement has been revised to below 12.5% of the original target.

(c) The Mid-term Appraisal to the Tenth Plan has revised downwards the growth target to 7%, as against the original 8.1% target set for the Tenth Plan. Consequently the sectoral investment requirements have been revised downwards. Public investment has fallen short of the targets in the first two years of the Plan, especially in agriculture, manufacturing, electricity and public administration, community, social and personal services. In manufacturing and electricity sectors, the public sector units have not been able to generate the requisite amount of internal resources. In a number of sectors there has been lack of sufficient budgetary resources on account of lower than expected tax-GDP ratio. Another reason has been the inability of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to fully utilize their internal resources. The public investment programme of the Government is also subject to constraints imposed by the pressure to achieve the FRBM targets and the TFC awards for the States.

Assessment of poverty line

+2523. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for assessing a person or a family in the country living Below Poverty Line;

(b) whether this assessment is done every year and in what way common people are informed about it;

(c) whether any increase or decrease has been taking place every year in terms of the number of people living Below Poverty Line in the State of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Planning Commission uses per capita

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

consumption expenditure as the criterion for assessing a person living below poverty line in the country. This assessment is done for individuals and not for families. The Task Force on 'Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demands' (1979) fixed the per capita consumption norm at Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level, corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal. in rural areas and 2100 kcal. in urban areas, which also meets a minimum of non-food requirements, such as clothing, shelter, transport etc. The Task Force used the age-sex-activity specific calorie allowances recommended by the Nutrition Expert Group (1968) to estimate the average daily per capita requirement for rural and urban areas using the age-sex-occupational structure of their respective population (as projected for 1982-83). The per capita consumption expenditure fixed for State/UT for determination of the poverty line are derived from the national level per capita consumption expenditure, using State-specific price indices and inter-State price differentials, according to the methodology given by Expert Group on 'Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor' (Lakdawala Committee 1997). The prescribed per capita consumption expenditure limits for determination of people living below poverty line are updated using State-specific cost of living indices, that is, Consumer Price Indices for Agricultural Labourers (CPIAL) for rural areas and Consumer Price Indices for Industrial Workers (CPIIW) for urban areas.

(b) Planning Commission's assessment on incidence of poverty, that is, estimates on percentage of population living below poverty line, at national and State level are based on the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest estimates on population living below poverty line are available for the year 1999-2000 (NSS-55th Round). These estimates are made available to the public through press releases.

. (c) Based on the last two surveys conducted in 1993-94 (50th Round) and 1999-2000 (55th Round), the estimates of the number and proportion of people living below the poverty line in the State of Rajasthan, for both, rural and urban areas, is given in the table.

Number and proportion of people living below poverty line in Rajasthan 1993-94 and 1999-2000

Years	Rural		Urba		Combined	
	Number (million)	Proportion (%)	Number (million)	Proportion (%)	Number (million)	Proportion (%)
1993-1994	9.5	26.5	3.4	30.5	12.9	27.4
1999-2000	5.5	13.7	2.7	19.9	8.2	15.3

(d) The district-wise estimates on the number of people living below poverty line is not estimated by the Planning Commission.

Project proposals of Maharashtra

2524. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several projects proposed by the State-Government of Maharashtra are pending for approval of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for such delay;

(c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for such approvals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when these projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No project proposed by Government of Maharashtra is pending with Planning Commission for approval/ investment clearance.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Launching of Bharat Nirman Yojana

†2525. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the prime reason for the entire Bharat Nirman Yojana being launched by Government;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.